arrangement between Air India and Singapore Airlines under which Air India will be entitled to a block of seats on Singapore Airlines' flights to points in U.S., Canada, Australia and New Zealand at an agreed price. The above agreement is being placed before the Government for approval.

Holding of Examination

2973. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Osmania and Kakatiya Universities were conducted one sitting exmination for awarding graduate and post graduate degrees for the last 22 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this practice has been discontinued on the direction of UGC;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether in spite of direction given by the Andhra High Court to conduct the examination, this examination has not been conducted so far affecting the future of near about 1 lakh students; and

(f) if so, the main reasons thereof and time by which the said examination is likely to be conducted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (f) According to the information furnished by UGC, Osmania and Kakatiya Universities have been offering one-sitting degree courses at under-graduate and post-graduate levels. UGC Regulations (1985) regarding Minimum Standards of Instruction for the grant of the first degree, inter-alia, provide that "No student shall be eligible for the award of the first degree unless he has successfully completed a three year course." The Commission considered the matter in its meetings held in March and September, 1996 and June, 1997 and decided that in view of the above Regulations, no university be allowed to enrol candidates for one-sitting B.A. degree course from the year 1996-97 onwards.

As regards the Masters' Degree, the Commission decided that, in view of proviso to the above Regulations, no student shall be eligible to seek admission to the Masters' Course who has not successfully pursued the first degree course of three years, duration.

Mittal Report

2974. SHRI KARIA MUNDA :
SHRI ANCHAL DAS :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for non-implementation of Mittal Report during the three years;

(b) the action taken/proposed to fulfill Parliament assurances and reasons for delaying report;

(c) whether reservation is applicable in promotion from Group 'A' to within Group 'A' & upto which post 40 Point Roster was applied during 1991-93; and

(d) if roster is not applicable from Group 'A' to 'A' how SC/ST are shown promoted against reservation ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : (a) and (b) The main recommendation of Mittal Committee Report pertaining to annulment of amendment of the R&P Rules has already been implemented. Action on other recommendation is under consideration which is likely to take some more time as the issues involved are complex. The matter is also under discussion with National Commission for SCs/STs. However, efforts are being made to expedite action.

(c) Reservation is applicable for promotions upto the lowest rung of Group 'A' posts only and the 40 point roster was made applicable accordingly for promotions affected between 1991 to 1993, including subsequent Review DPCs. No reservation is applicable in promotion with Group 'A'.

(d) Position already explained at (c) above.

[Translation]

Tourism Projects in Haryana

2975. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Haryana Government has sent some tourism projects for the approval of the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism has prioritised the

following projects in Haryana in consultation with the State Government for Central Financial assistance during 1997-98 :-

Sl. No.	Project
1.	Expansion of facilities at Birdie Tourist Complex, Faridabad.
2.	Expansion of Accommodation at Rai.
3.	Health Resort at Badkal
4.	Upgradation of Tiliar Lake
5.	Tourist Complex at Damdama
6.	Surajkund Crafts Mela
7.	Tourist facilities at Kalesar
8.	Kartik Festival
9.	Kurukshetra Festival
10.	Exterior Development of Raja Nahar Singh Ballabgarh Fort.

[English]

Air Tickets for Leh

2976. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA :
SHRI GHULAM MOHD. MIR MAGANI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that air tickets for Leh bound air passengers are being sold by touts in connivance with Indian Airlines staffs menning the various booking counters and centre space control for a commission anything between Rs. 500/- to Rs. 1000/-;

(b) whether it is also a fact that because of corruptions in the I.A., the Leh bound plans usually run half empty while the passengers do not get tickets at the various counters of I.A;

(c) whether a list containing number of passengers travelled on each flight separately on the Delhi Leh sector for the months of March, April, May, June and July 1997 (till date) be place on the table of the house; and

(d) the steps taken by the I.A. authorities to stop black marketing of tickets on the I.A. routes in the country also be placed on the table of the House ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The number of passengers who travelled on Indian Airlines flights on Delhi-Leh sector were as under :-

Month	No. of flights	No. of passengers
March'97	15	1189
April'97	16	1217
May'97	17	1369
June'97	28	2163
July'97	33	2758

(d) Indian Airlines has taken preventive measures like assigning dedicated officers for pre-flight checks, post flight checks by Airport Manager, Delhi, review of cancellation procedure and deputation of an officer at Delhi Airport to supervise checking of flights to Leh route.

Oil Companies

2977. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to privatise the marketing set up of oil companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether oil companies are not meeting the marketing requirements of rural population;

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to tackle this problem;

(e) whether the Government propose to review the rural marketing aspect of the functions of oil companies; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) Petrol and Diesel are being supplied to the consumers through the vast network of retail outlets all over the country including rural areas and National/State Highways. The oil marketing companies carry out periodical surveys to identify the economically viable locations for putting up retail outlets and LPG distributorships. The proposals are included in the Marketing Plans and retail network is developed accordingly by the oil companies. In view of the growing demand for LPG in the rural areas